

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE REVIEW

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

15 - 18 FEBRUARY 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

18 February 1964

1. Cyprus: With the UN in the act, conditions on the island have simmered down for the time being.

There are still occasional outbreaks of fighting but no major clashes like the four-day affair at Limassol last week.

Inter-communal tensions, of course, have not abated. Greek and Turkish Cypriot fighters face one another over the barriers at many points throughout the island. A complicating factor is that Greek Cypriot police seem to us to be more interested in killing Turks than in restoring order.

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Prime Minister Inonu has promised us that Turkey will not intervene while the matter is being considered in New York, always provided that there is no new massacre of Turkish Cypriots.

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The Turkish military embarked a combined service task force last Saturday. It never got very far from the Turkish coast, but the Turks were happy with the demonstration of their ability to mount such an operation with discipline and dispatch. They probably felt it was edifying to the Greek Cypriots.

The Greeks, following the resounding victory by Papandreou in Sunday's elections (some 175 seats in a 300-seat assembly), will probably be taking a somewhat stronger line on Cyprus. Papandreou is something of an enigma, but we are hopeful that he may be more of a restraining factor on Greek Cypriot extremists than his predecessor.

The Soviets have been passing the word that they would respond favorably to a Greek Cypriot request for military assistance in the event of an attack by Turkey.

We do not feel that the Soviets would, at the outset anyway, involve themselves in direct military action in either Cyprus or Turkey, but would probably confine themselves to pressure along Turkey's border

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2. Ethiopia-Somali: The Organization for African Unity, as expected, called for a cease-fire in the fighting along the frontier and impaneled a commission to investigate the causes.

Addis Ababa and Mogadiscio agreed to stop firing at noon, Sunday.

The fighting, however, continued on past the deadline. We are not sure whether this is the result of poor communications or an inability to control the troops on the line.

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While the OAU Commission may be able to effect a ceasefire, we doubt that it will be able to deal with the root cause--dissidence by Somali tribesmen in the Ethiopian Ogaden.

3. Zanzibar: The Karume government, divided and fearful, has never really been able to restore the island to tranquility.

Since the Karume revolt last month, large quantities of weapons have remained on the loose and at least six different groups of armed men are at large.

Few of these are in any way responsive to the government. The citizenry lives in daily fear of new violence.

Even the leftist government ministry^s are getting worried.

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4. Tanganyika: Nigeria has agreed to Nyerere's request for security forces to help him keep law and order. Algeria has the request under study and will probably agree.

Ethiopia, the third country asked, may find it hard to spring any forces just now.

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In any case, these African reinforcements will not be arriving for several months. The British will remain for the interim, helping keep things quiet and training the new Tanganyikan army.

5. Gabon: There has been yet another upheaval in a former French colony. All the returns are not yet in, but it appears to have been a revolt by younger army officers against what they considered the over-strict rule of President Mba.

There may be some loosening of Gabon's ties with France as a result.

6. South Vietnam: The Viet Cong's week-long ceasefire in connection with lunar New Year's ended Monday night.

If, as we suspect, the Viet Cong declare these annual ceasefires to demonstrate that they call the tune on the war, then there should be a quick resumption of guerrilla activity.

Khanh's government, which has seemed to us to offer the promise of stronger leadership than its predecessor, is still struggling to get its feet on firm ground.

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He has several plans, still on the drawing boards, to make his regime more attractive and effective at the local level. Failure to move in this direction was one of the real shortcomings of the Diem regime.

Communist terrorism against Americans, a sporadic problem over the past several years, has risen steeply in the last few weeks. This could be the signal for a new campaign to cause doubts about Saigon's security arrangements in the American community and weaken its resolve.

General Khanh has promised to bring every security asset he has to bear on the problem, but, even so, Lodge thinks we must expect further incidents.

7. Laos: The Pathet Lao, bolstered by North Vietnamese troops, have been keeping the pressure on neutralist and rightist positions in widely-separated parts of Laos.

In the Plaine des Jarres, there have been exchanges of artillery fire and non-Communist forces have lost some ground.

In South-Central Laos the Communists are seeping slowly toward the Mekong River. Communist movements in this area are making the Thais, just across the river, nervous.

Thailand has put its forces along the frontier
[redacted] and is moving up reinforcements.

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We give the Communists the ability to push on to the river at any time, but are not convinced that they intend to do so just now.

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8. Indonesia-Malaysia: Further talks among the Indonesian, Malaysian and Philippine foreign ministers now look pretty remote.

Malaysia's prime minister has just declared that such talks would be pointless until Indonesian forces are removed from Malaysian soil.

He charged Indonesia with running supplies and reinforcements to these guerrillas

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9. North Vietnam - France: Hanoi's minister of foreign affairs, noting with delight French recognition of Communist China, suggested [REDACTED] that it was time for normal diplomatic relations between Paris and Hanoi.
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10. North Vietnam: Hanoi has seemed dissatisfied with the proforma expressions of Soviet support which followed the Moscow visit of several high-ranking Vietnamese Communists.

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It says it would have liked to see Soviet pledges translated into "practical deeds." We do not know just what Hanoi has in mind; perhaps it would like to hear a little more rocket rattling out of Moscow on the theory that this deters the US.

11. USSR-US: Moscow has been kicking up an unusual fuss about the Nosenko defection and is even hinting that it could lead to its withdrawal from the Geneva disarmament talks.

We doubt Moscow would find the case a credible or prudent pretext for breaking off.

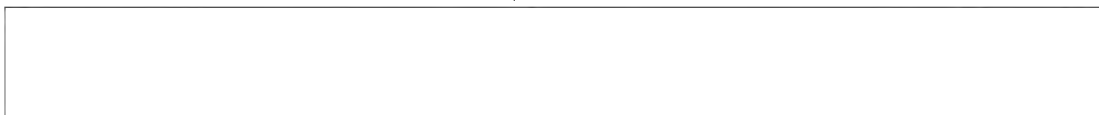
12. Canada-USSR: The head of the Canadian wheat board is in Moscow, probably for preliminary talks about further Soviet purchases.

Weather has been poor in Soviet winter wheat areas and the crop probably will be no better than last year's poor crop. Moscow may feel the need to prepare for such a contingency.

The Soviets know they have bought all the wheat--6.8 million tons--that Canada can ship before July. Current talks, therefore, would involve futures for the second half of the year.

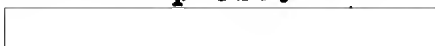
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13. **USSR:** Although nothing happened over the weekend, signs still point to another Soviet space spectacular soon.



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We do not have any clear idea of what is in the works, but Friday would be a favorable day for a lunar probe.



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14. **East Europe:** Ulbricht, one of the few remaining relics of the Stalinist era, has been brooding for many months about the tendencies toward liberalization of some of his fraternal East European neighbors.

His displeasure burst into the open last week at an East German party meeting when these tendencies were publicly and officially criticized.

Intemperate criticism of this sort has generally been reserved for the heretic Chinese.

Such outbursts of course contain implicit criticism of the Soviets for allowing the seeds of post-Stalinist degeneration to spread, thus adding to Ulbricht's problems of keeping order in East Germany.

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15. Cuba: Cuba to contest the jurisdiction of Florida in the case of the Cuban fishermen.

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16. Mexico: We have heard that Lopez Mateos and Nasir will be exchanging visits later in the year.